

Serial No.: 10/037,314

Amendment of Specification

Art Unit: 3654

On page 1, paragraph 1, please amend as follows:

This invention relates to cable or line shorteners and more particularly to apparatus to permit the ready height adjustment of a ceiling suspended sign, and is co-pending with commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application 09/yyy,xxx 10/036,756 entitled "Hanging Cable Shortener Construction" (Rose-12), which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

On page 12, please amend the bottom paragraph as follows:

The invention also comprises a cable shortener apparatus wherein the inner hub and ~~the~~ each annular flange are individual components mated together to define a ~~toroidal~~ toroidal volume for receipt of the support cable.

On page 14, please amend the first full paragraph as follows:

The invention also includes a method of adjusting the height of a sign from an overhead support by at least one cable or line, the cable or line having a certain diameter, the method comprising: wrapping the cable around a

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Amendment of Specification continued

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~~toroidally~~ toroidally shaped volume comprised of a hub and a pair of flanges arranged on each end of the hub, the flanges each having an outer peripheral lip, each of the peripheral lips of the flanges being spaced apart from one another a distance less than twice the certain diameter of the cable or line.

On page 23, please amend the first paragraph thereon as follows:

A further embodiment of the construction and assembly of the cable shortener 10 of the present invention is shown in figure 7(a) wherein a first ring 150 having a first annular peripheral lip 152, a short drum 154 of short axial length, and a second ring 156 having an annular peripheral lip 158 are shown in an exploded depiction. The drum 154 and the first and the second rings 150 and 156 are mated together in a male-female relationship to form a rigid cable shortener 10 in this embodiment by a press fit, or by bonding of radially adjacent surfaces 160 and 162 to define the cable shortener 10 similar to that shown in figure 1, which when assembled in this particular embodiment, is shown in perspective view in figure 7(b) with the larger annular cable wrap receiving chamber and a narrow gap between the peripheral ~~lips 152~~ lips 152 and 158 of a dimension which is less than twice the diameter of a cable/line to

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be wrapped about the drum 154, to deny easy overlap and undesired unwinding of a cable from the cable shortener.

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On page 24, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 10 thereof and bridging over to page 25, as follows:

Figure 9(a) shows yet a further embodiment of the construction process of the cable shortener 10 of the present invention. An annular generally U-shaped channel 190 is molded or formed of a plastic material as a generally ~~toroidal~~ toroidal shape with an open outermost peripheral gap 192 defined by a pair of radially outwardly directed walls 194 and 195. After such molding operation, the outermost lips 196 of the walls 194 and 195 may be heat and/or pressure formed toward one another to create the narrow rigidly spaced apart relationship 197 of those outermost peripheral lips 196, a distance apart as recited in the aforementioned embodiments, of less than twice the diameter of a cable wrapped about the hub or channel of the cable shortener shown in figure 1, the assembled construction in this embodiment being shown in figure 9(b).